



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

SB 2004, Relating to Home Care Licensing

**Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Deputy Director of Environmental Health Administration**

Thursday, February 27, 2014

1 **Department's Position:** COMMENTS.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** Staff and operating costs are estimated at approximately \$150,000 per year, which
3 have yet to be appropriated.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The department testified to the merits of the original bill. The licensing of
5 home care agencies is consistent with our goals and objectives to safeguard vulnerable populations and
6 ensure the safety of individuals receiving such care or services in their residence and, thereby, allowing
7 individuals to remain in their homes.

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 9:00 A.M.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol**

RE: SENATE BILL 2004 RELATING TO HOME CARE LICENSING

Chair Ige and Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 2004 Relating to Home Care Licensing.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

SB 2004 is critical to extending the sunset date of Act 21, First Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, to June 20, 2019, to allow the home care licensing program to begin operation. After five years without funding—and with DOH set to publish rules relating to the home care licensing program—SB 2004 is crucial to ensuring the program the opportunity to begin operation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.